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RUEHGB/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD 0284  
RHMFIISS/HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL  
RHBAVAKS/COMUSNAVCENT

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 MANAMA 000577

SIPDIS

BAGHDAD FOR AMBASSADOR ERELI

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/28/2023

TAGS: ~~PREL PGOV PTER MARR IR IZ BA~~

SUBJECT: SCENESETTER FOR VISIT OF BAHRAIN'S CROWN PRINCE

Classified By: CDA Christopher Henzel for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

1.(S) Summary: Bahrain's Crown Prince will visit Washington September 7-10. His visit is an opportunity to consult with a close partner and an  
~~12.~~ (SBU) The Bahraini Embassy in Washington is seeking appointments at the White House, NSC, and OSD between September 7 and 10 for Crown Prince  
~~13.~~ (SBU) Before his meetings with the Administration, the Crown Prince will visit Boeing headquarters; Mayor Bloomberg in New York; and New York  
~~14.~~ (S) Earlier this summer, the Bahraini leadership was nervous about the near-term potential for armed conflict involving Iran. Those jitters  
~~15.~~ (S) With Iran in mind, the Crown Prince remains keenly interested in the latest U.S. thinking on missile defense for the region. He will also  
~~16.~~ (S) The government of Bahrain continues to work closely with the USG against extremists with links to Al-Qaida. In July, Bahraini authoriti  
7.(C) The Crown Prince will also urge the return of Navy dependents to Bahrain. Since their departure in 2004, in the wake of U.S. concerns over  
8.(S) President Bush and Secretary Gates told the King during their March meetings in Washington that Navy dependents would begin returning soon  
9.(S) Bahrain has nominated an Ambassador to Iraq and is preparing to send a survey team to Baghdad to scout out a chancery building and Ambass  
10.(C) Regional tensions may be contributing to the stridency of sectarian voices in Bahrain. The majority of Bahraini citizens are part of the Shi'a  
11.(C) Despite these tensions, in post's view Bahrain's leaders, as well as the most influential leaders in the Shi'a community, remain committed  
12.(U) Bahrain, while lacking the oil wealth of its neighbors, is benefiting from the regional boom, and has enjoyed five years of real GDP growth